

100 YEARS OF MASONRY IN TUSCOLA, ILLINOIS 1860-1960
FREE MASON'S TUSCOLA, ILL. LODGE NO. 332

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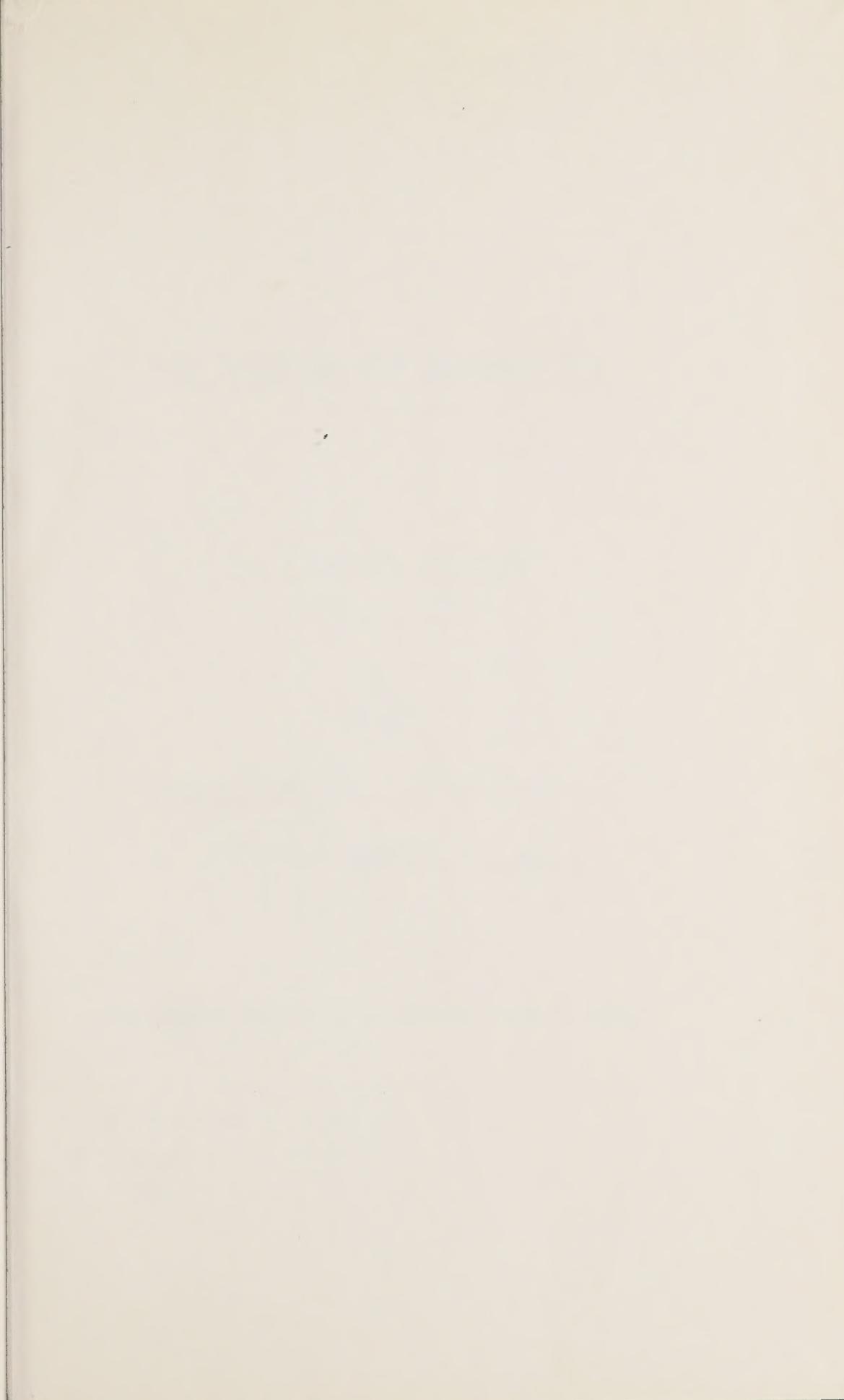
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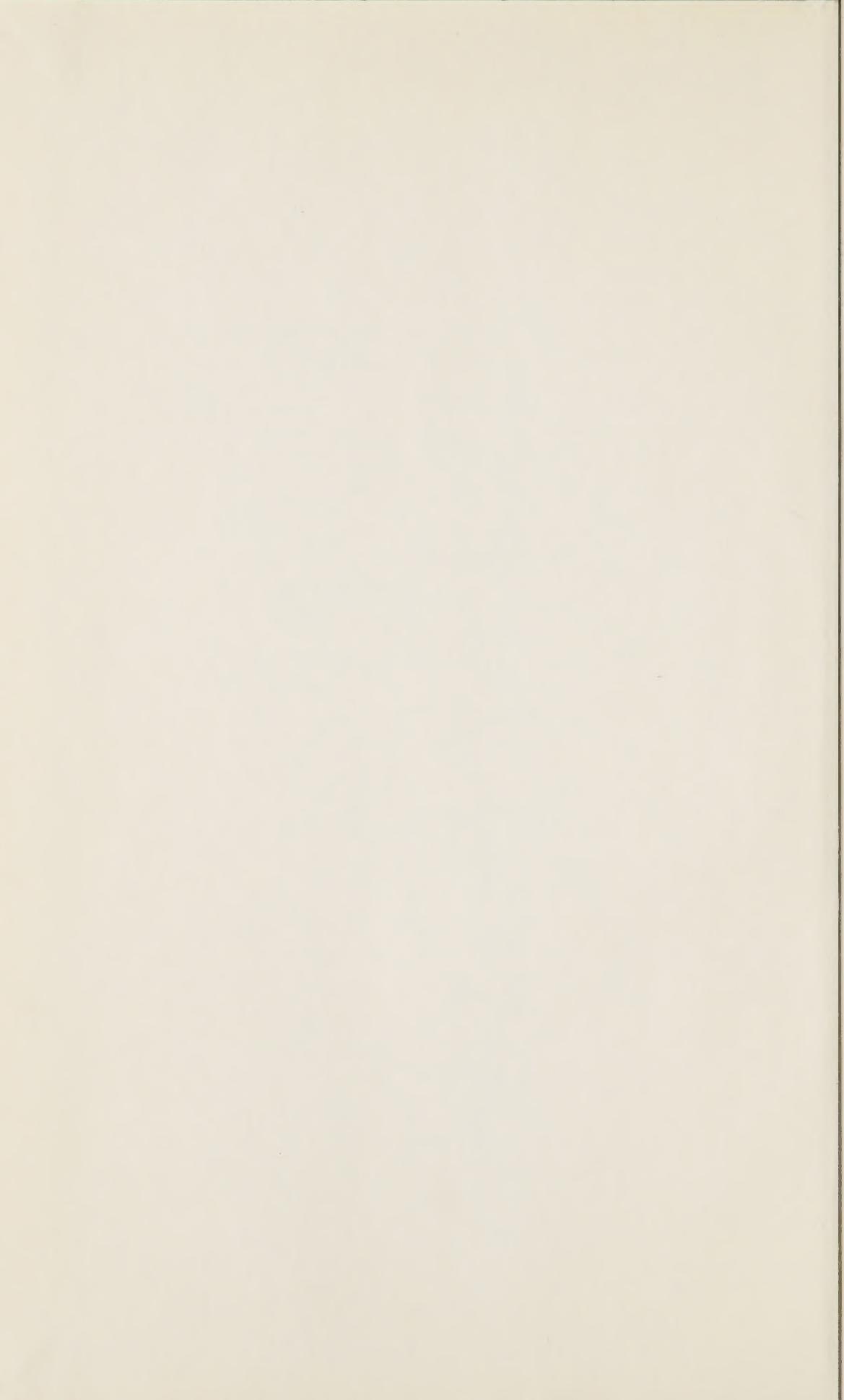


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JOHN W. MORRIS

100 YEARS OF MASONRY

In Tuscola, Illinois

1860-1960

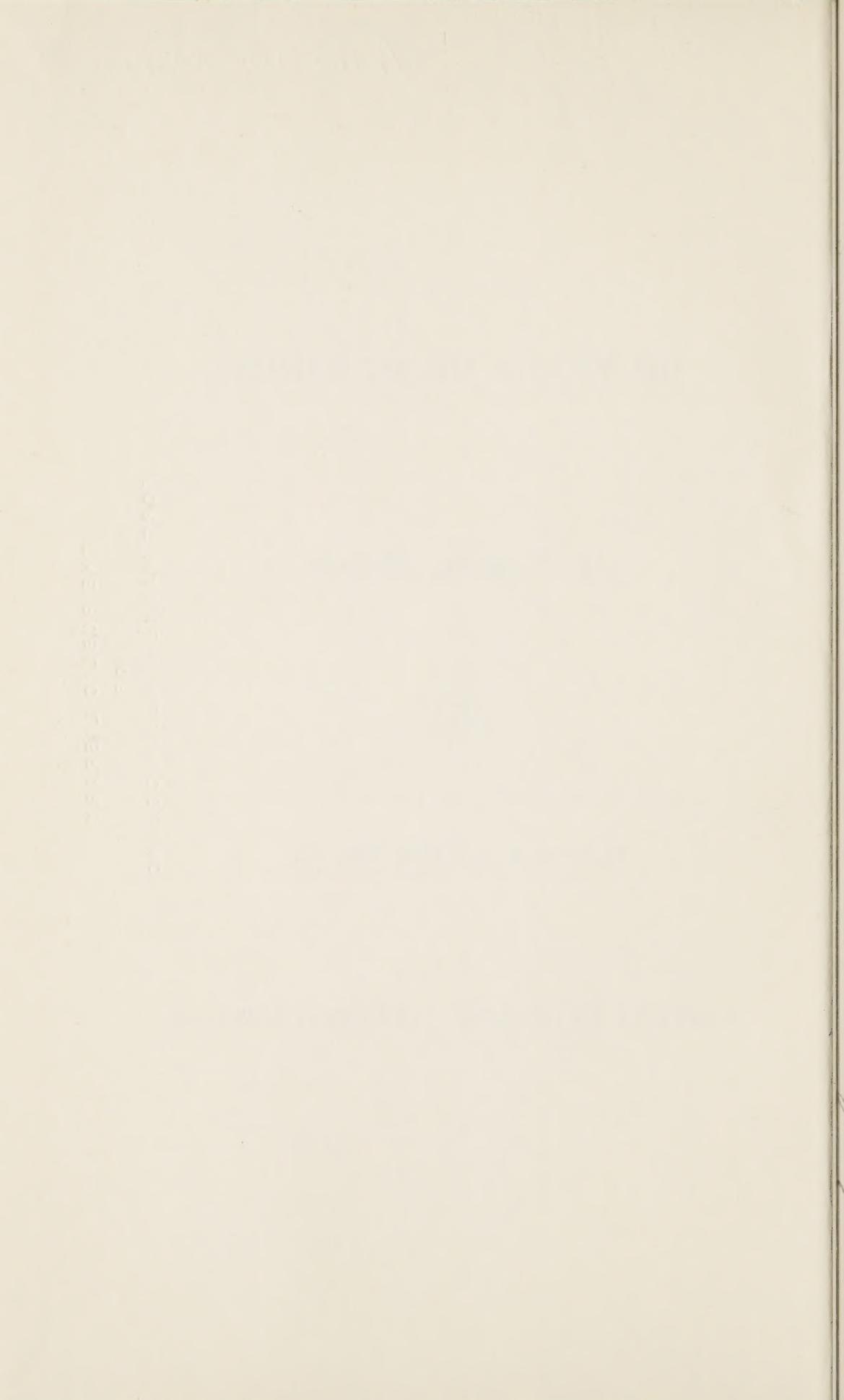


FREE MASONS. TUSCOLA, ILL.

TUSCOLA LODGE NO. 332

ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS

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100 YEARS OF MASONRY IN TUSCOLA, ILLINOIS . . .

Freemasonry has been a force for peace and harmony in the world for many centuries and in Tuscola, Illinois, for one century.

Based as it is on the ingenuity of man, as displayed in the building of King Solomon's Temple, ancient truths are transmitted and related to the present day.

Tools of the active stone mason are used to illustrate many of the Masonic lectures and discourses, resulting in a keener perception among members of the tenets of the institution.

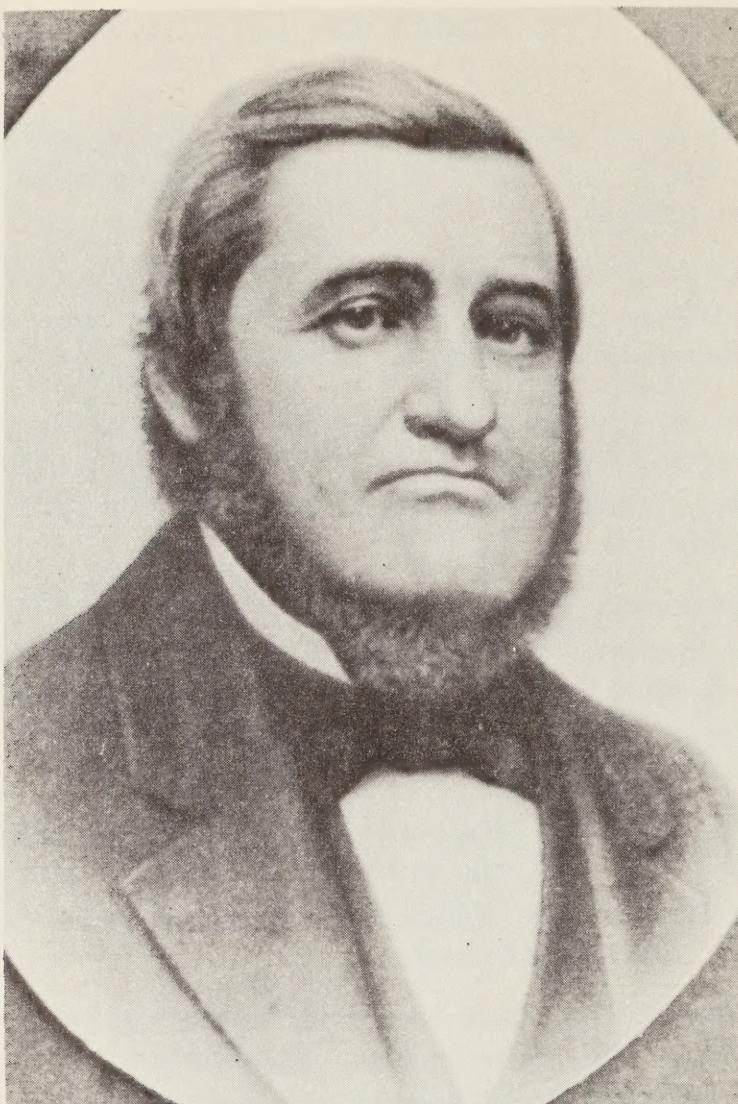
Freemasonry is an individual matter with each member. To one, it may be a part of a full community life. In another, it may represent and serve his entire religious experience. To still others, the significance may assume various levels of importance.

In all cases, an improvement of the individual accrues, resulting in a betterment of the community and a favorable opinion of the Masonic fraternity among those who observe from the sidelines.

The benefit has been the same in Tuscola as it has been throughout the globe and an examination of the events of the past 100 years will serve not only to bear this out, but also may point the way to greater accomplishments in the future.

1544113
UNDER DISPENSATION . . .

The first Masonic lodge was convened in Tuscola on March 5, 1860, under dispensation from Ira A. W. Buck, the Grand Master of Illinois. James Davis, a member of the firm of Davis and Finney, grain merchants, was appointed to serve as the first worshipful master.



Ira A. W. Buck, Grand Master of Illinois in 1860, when Tuscola Lodge No. 332, AF&AM, was instituted.

The need for the lodge was shown by an immediate interest by leading citizens of the town. On May 10 next, the lodge minutes reported the reading of three petitions, the making of two favorable and one unfavorable report, the election of two petitioners and the rejection of one, the conferring of two entered apprentice degrees and two fellowcraft degrees.

The first three petitioners to receive the degrees of Masonry in Tuscola were H. J. Bassett, S. B. Logan and William F. French, being initiated in the months of March, April and June of that year.

The charter members of the lodge, instituted in November, 1860 as Tuscola Lodge No. 332, AF&AM, were James Davis, John McGinnis, Alfred H. Butler, J. W. McKinney, John Sloan, William Chandler, J. C. Parcels, F. F. Nesbit, S. H. Alcock, J. C. Long, Joseph G. Cannon, E. S. Crawley, John N. Jackson, W. H. Russell and S. G. Bassett.

Douglas County was but a year old when the lodge was formed, having been detached from Coles County by legislative action in 1859. Tuscola, its county seat and the site of this, the first Masonic organization in the county, was but three years old.

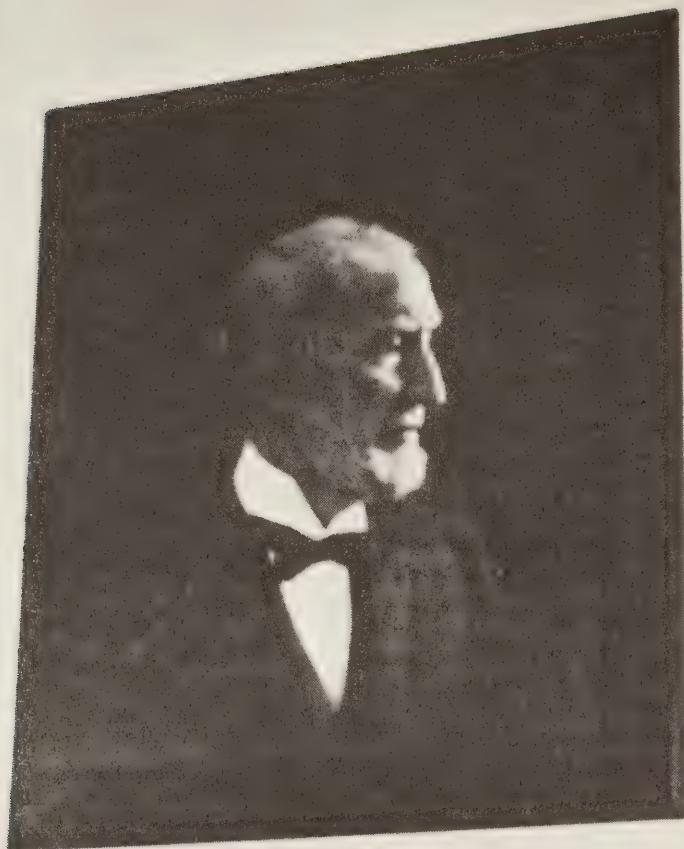
In the years that have followed, hundreds of men of both high and low estate have received the degrees of Masonry and have learned the ritualistic lectures and in turn have passed them on to subsequent members.

While many members have attained wide prominence, both in and out of Masonic circles, none became so universally known as Joseph G. "Uncle Joe" Cannon, who entered politics as Douglas County's first state's attorney.

He had received the degrees of Masonry at Shelbyville in 1858 and came to Tuscola as a young attorney in 1859. He was elected to the House of Representatives in 1873 and with the exception of two terms, served in Congress for 50 years. He was speaker of the House from 1903 to 1911.

As a charter member, his name was on many of the first petitions to be read in the lodge. He also rose to the office of senior warden before his political activities began to demand too much of his time.

James Davis, the first worshipful master, came to Tuscola from his native Parke County, Indiana, in 1857 and was successful in the grain business. He was elected mayor of Tuscola in 1882.



Joseph G. "Uncle Joe" Cannon, who attained great prominence as a statesman, was a charter member of Tuscola lodge and rose to the office of senior warden before his time was taken over by his career.

INTER-LODGE RELATIONS . . .

Tuscola lodge had been chartered but a short time when it was asked to recommend a lodge at Arcola. This recommendation was forthcoming in January, 1861.

A lodge was recommended at Camargo on November 10, 1864 and at Villa Grove in 1904. A recommendation was also granted for a lodge at Unity in Piatt County but

present day maps do not show this locality.

The lodge was notified on February 9, 1877 of the removal of Center State lodge from Mackville to Atwood.

The relations with neighboring lodges have always been cordial.

EARLY FINANCES . . .

Tuscola Lodge No. 332 began life with a debt of \$348.20. Some of this was financed by the issuance of \$150 in stock. The debt was retired in due time and by 1866, there was a surplus of \$366 in cash on hand.

LODGE HOMES . . .

From 1860 until 1870, the lodge met on the second floor of a frame building located on the south side of W. S. Central avenue and near Washington street. Early purchases for the hall included a quantity of lumber, candles, a lamp to suspend above the altar, \$6.50 for a master's carpet, and \$1 for a half cord of wood.

In 1866, \$69.20 was spent for jewels, and repairs in the amount of \$238 was authorized.

From time to time, other quarters were investigated but none were acted upon until 1870 when spacious quarters in the Wyeth, Cannon and Co. (or Commercial) Block were occupied.

Uncle Joe Cannon first offered the rooms to the lodge on December 27, 1869 in behalf of the owners, a private banking concern that later became the First National Bank of Tuscola.

The purchase price was \$3000. The owners donated \$500 and Caleb Garrett \$250. Other gifts brought the total to \$1000. The Royal Arch Chapter, which had been formed in 1867, agreed to pay half the cost of the hall. Melita Commandery, which was convened in 1870, was given a year's free rent.

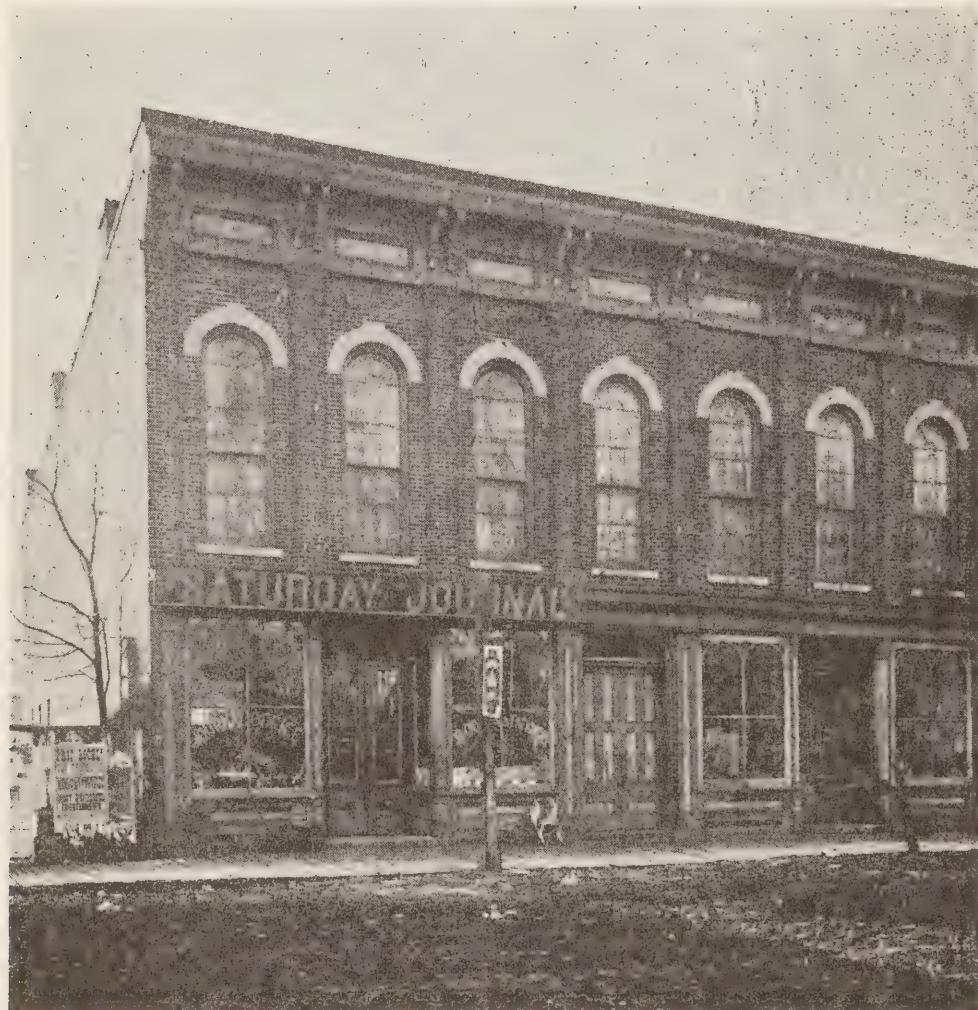
The Commercial Block was located on the approximate present site of the Tuscola Community building. It was indeed an imposing structure. The ground floor was occupied by five business houses, including the banking

firm. The second floor contained a theatre seating 800 people and its stage was fitted with curtains, backdrop and scenery in the latest mode of the day.

The Masonic hall was located on the third floor and was described in early prints as one of the finest in the state.

The old hall was sold to James Newlan for \$350.

John Ervin headed a committee on the dedication of the new hall and this was carried out on May 3, 1870 by H. G. Reynolds, grand master.



The lodge's third home on W. S. Central avenue. Lodge was held here from 1874 until 1900. It was located on the site of the present McCumber building.

The last meeting was held in this hall on March 6, 1873. On March 11, a fire started by exploding gun powder in a grocery store at the west end of Sale street. A total of 30 buildings at the west end of Sale street and Central avenue were destroyed, including the Commercial Block. The loss was estimated at \$150,000.

The IOOF hall was used by the lodge until the following year when rooms were rented and outfitted in the Coleman Bright building on W. S. Central avenue on the approximate location of the present McCumber building.

This was the lodge home until 1900 when the trustees entered into an agreement with Roy Helm, acquiring "sky rights" to build a third story on top of his building at 126 W. Sale street.

The hall cost a total of \$4500 with Tuscola lodge and Chapter assuming one-fourth each and Commandery one-half.

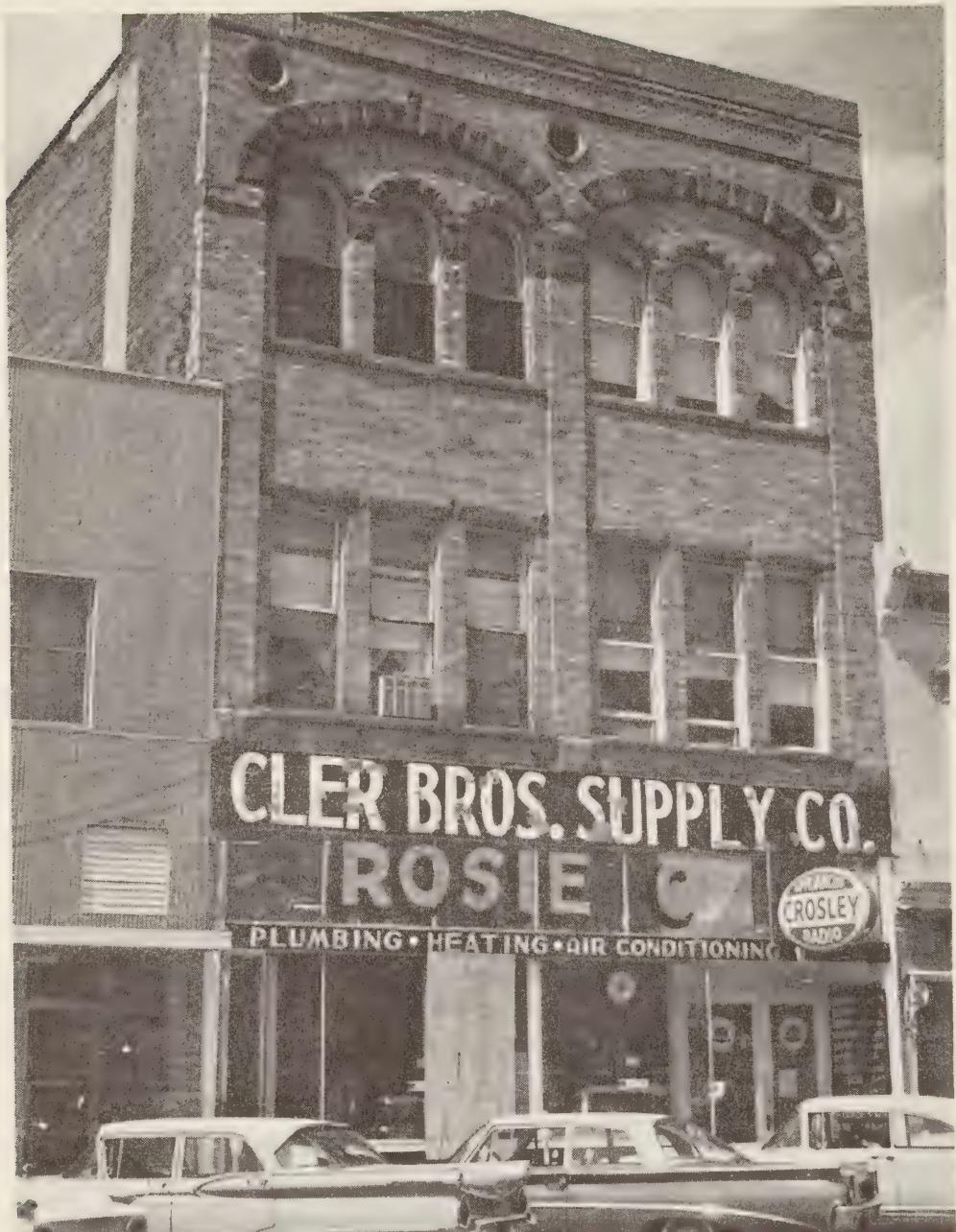
The Masonic bodies owned half of the second floor stairway and all of that to the third floor, and was bound to keep the roof in good repair.

The next and last move of the lodge was in 1937 to the building at 107 N. Main street. This hall was acquired from the Knights of Pythias lodge by Gus Flesor, operator of Tuscola Kandy Kitchen, and a long time Masonic worker.

In turn, Mr. Flesor gave the second story half of the building to the lodge, free of conditions or obligations, for as long as it is needed for Masonic purposes.

OTHERS USE QUARTERS . . .

A number of groups have used the various Masonic halls. The Episcopal Church, no longer in existence in Tuscola, was the first outside group to use the original hall.



Home of the lodge from 1900 until 1937. Permission was obtained from Roy Helm to add a third story to the building for lodge purposes.

Later the Good Templars, an early temperance group, were tenants of the lodge, as were the IOOF, the Knights

of Pythias and the Royal Neighbors of America.

In recent years, the Masonic hall has been managed by a joint group known as the Temple Board of Managers. The various bodies, including the Blue Lodge, Royal Arch Chapter, Melita Commandery, and Order of the Eastern Star, share the cost of maintaining the property.

The use of the hall by the Order of DeMolay, and Rainbow For Girls is welcomed by the various groups.

MODERNIZATION . . .

The lodge physical property, through the years, has reflected some of the developments of modern times. Electric lights were installed in the hall being used in 1891, and in 1896, a telephone was put in for the use of members.

City heat was added in 1902 but this was later discontinued. Coal heat was used until 1945, when natural gas service became available.

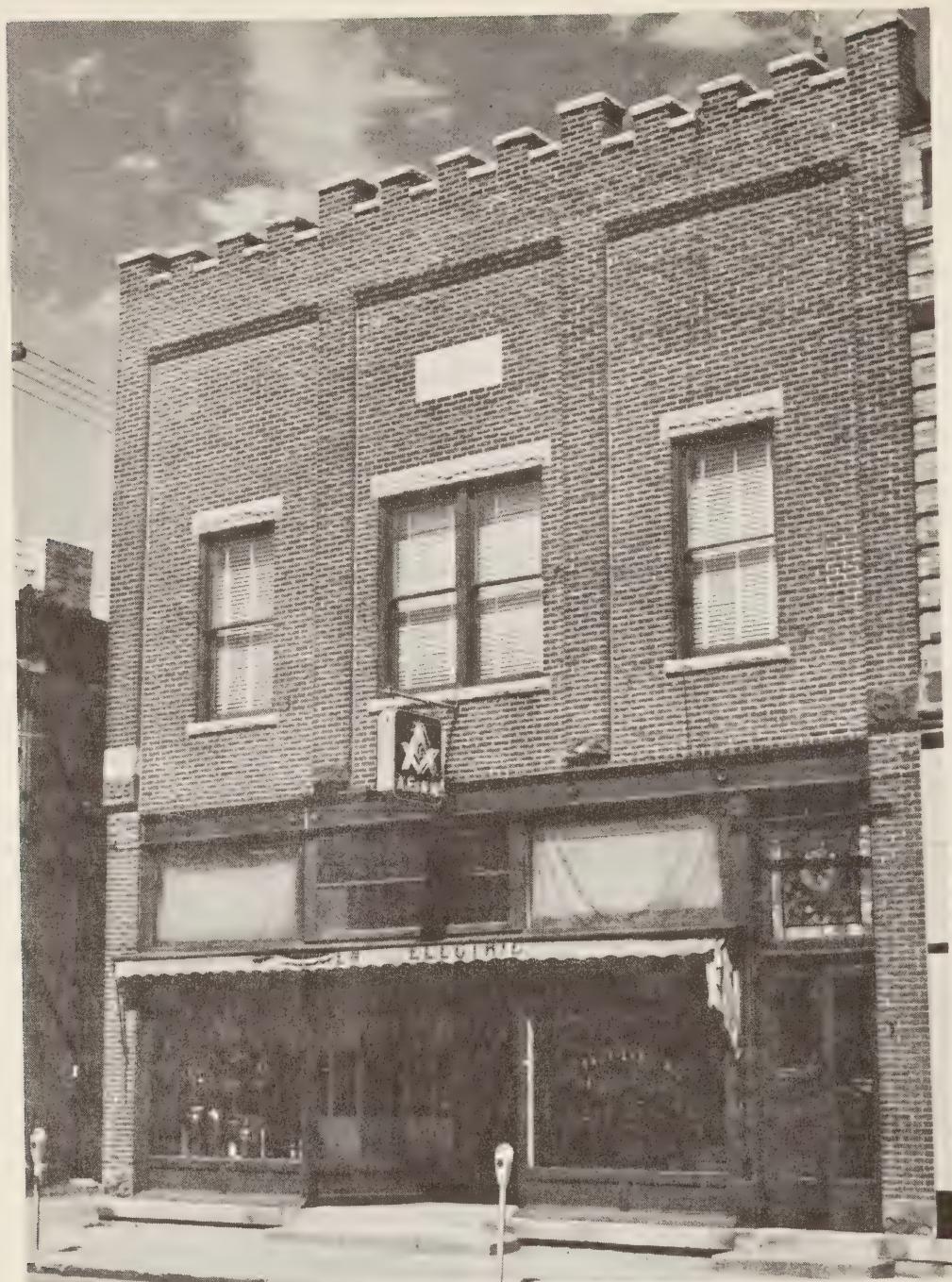
MASONIC CUSTOMS . . .

Tuscola Lodge No. 332 was organized at a time when the surrounding area was open territory and the brethren felt the need of banding together, not only for survival but for social reasons as well.

It was before the miracle drugs and many illnesses that now readily respond to treatment were prolonged or fatal. Many people were subject to malaria, then thought to be caused by the air coming off the swampy areas of the prairie.

Traditionally, the members were ready and willing to aid their brethren and many long nights were spent with ailing brothers. Often, the lodge paid members to serve as nurses for the sick. Too, payments were made to aid the families of those distressed.

In case of death, the lodge members made themselves available to the bereaved family. Usually, a Lodge of Sorrow was convened and the brethren would go to the home of the deceased brother and take charge of his re-



The present home was given to the lodge by Gus Flesor, prominent local businessman and Masonic worker.

mains, conveying them to the cemetery for interment with full Masonic honors.

After the burial, a resolution of eulogy was adopted and ordered published, at first in the Douglas County Shield and the Tuscola Union, and later in the Tuscola Journal and the Tuscola Review, when these newspapers came into being.

The lodge officiated at the first burial in Tuscola cemetery on October 30, 1861 when the remains of Albert G. Coffin were taken from the first burial ground, near the corner of Indiana and South Line street, and committed in full ritualistic form to a grave in the newly organized cemetery.

In 1866, the lodge aided one William Rogers, who died of injuries here, after having fallen or been thrown from an Illinois Central sleeping car. The lodge saw to his care until his death a few days later and then aided his wife, after taking care of the burial rites.

For many years, the lodge owned title to lots in the local cemetery as well as coffins for use in case of death to any of the brothers.

PUBLIC CEREMONIES . . .

All of the lodge appearancese were not as gloomy as this, however. On December 27, 1865, the Tuscola Brass Band, led by Henry C. Niles, Dougals County's first surveyor, was hired to lead a parade to the Methodist church, where the officers were installed in a public ceremony.

An address, given at that time by S. T. Callaway, was ordered published in the Tuscola Union.

CORNERSTONE LAYING . . .

Cornerstone laying was another public ceremony for which the lodge was particularly suited. William H. Lamb, worshipful master, presided at an early ceremony on June 26, 1870, when the cornerstone of the Tuscola Union school was laid. Many early historical articles and relics were placed in the stone.

Some of the articles were recovered in 1922, after the fire that destroyed the building and in turn placed in the



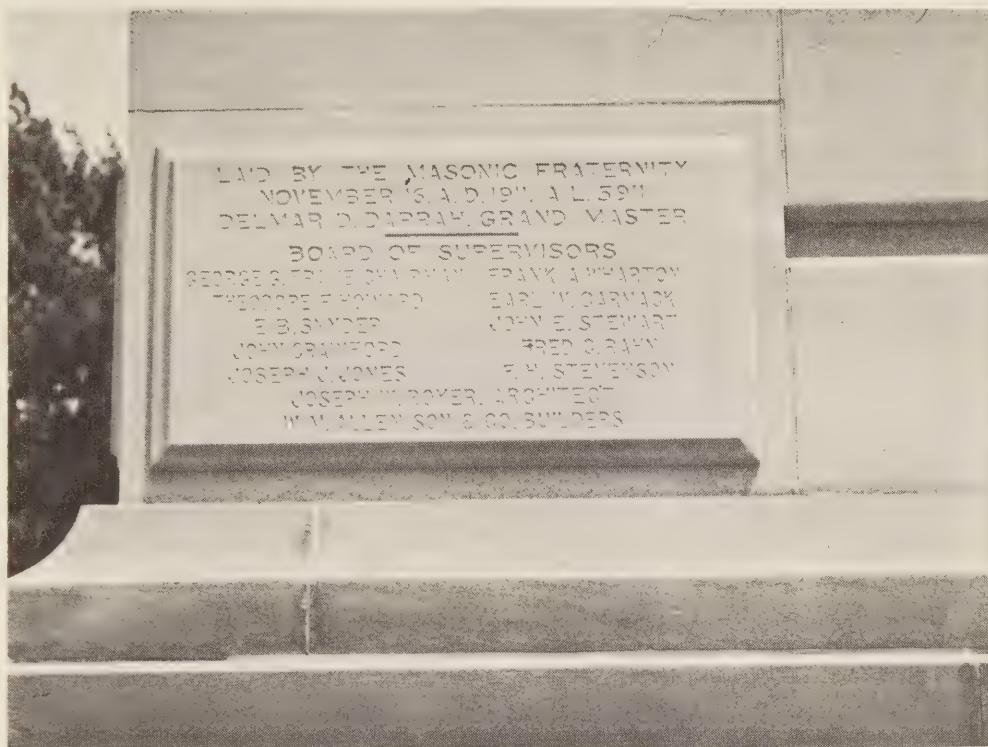
The laying of the cornerstone of the Douglas County Court house on November 16, 1911. The court house was dedicated two years later with "Uncle" Joe Cannon giving the address.

cornerstone of what is now known as the South Ward school. The lodge also officiated at this ceremony. And this seems to be the last cornerstone laying of consequence of which the lodge was in charge.

Another early ceremony for the lodge was the laying of the cornerstone of the First Christian church. This took place September 8, 1892. The local officials acted under a dispensation from the Grand Lodge.

The lodge participated in the cornerstone laying at the Sullivan Masonic home on June 24, 1902 and was invited the same year to place articles in the cornerstones of the First Presbyterian Church and the Tuscola Public Library.

The laying of the cornerstone of the present Douglas County court house on November 16, 1911 was probably the lodge's most colorful ceremony. The Illinois grand master, Delmar D. Darrah, personally officiated at this rite.



A close-up of the cornerstone, as it appears today. The stone contains many relics and documents of the day.

STRICT DISCIPLINARIAN . . .

In the earlier years of the Tuscola fraternity, the lodge also performed the function of strict disciplinarian whenever any of the members got out of line. Charges of un-Masonic conduct would be preferred, attorneys appointed and a trial held. If found guilty, the punishment was usually suspension or expulsion.

Once a deputy sheriff was tried, after letting two prisoners escape without sounding an alarm. In 1867, one brother charged another with permitting his hogs to

damage his property. Uncle Joe Cannon was counsel for the defense and secured an acquittal.

RECOMMEND FESTIVAL . . .

A communication from the Grand Master on April 24, 1866, discussed the end of the Civil War. He called for harmony among the brethren of both the North and the South and asked that a festival be held on June 24 of that year to celebrate the peace that had come.

The willingness of the brethren to forget the past was shown a little later when \$25 was voted to be sent to the aid of suffering brethren in the South.

FREEMASONRY IN WAR . . .

The Masonic fraternity has always shown a willingness to serve in times of emergency. The lodge has frequently given freely in time and substance to aid others in case of need.

Individually, members have served personally with distinction.

The Tuscola lodge had been meeting but a year when the Civil War began. Derrick Lamb, captain; W. H. Lamb, adjutant; and Wesford Taggart, lieutenant colonel, were among the early lodge members who helped in organizing units for service in this War. Many other Tuscola members served in this conflict.

War times are always busy times for Masonic lodges. Special meetings are often called to confer degrees upon servicemen who may be at home briefly on furlough. No doubt, such occasions had much to do with the lodge's extensive activities during the first few years of its existence.

Returning servicemen also tend to seek the brotherhood of Masonry in adjustment to peaceful pursuits after a serious conflict. This was found to be the case after all of the nation's wars of the past century.

WORLD WAR I . . .

The Tuscola lodge was especially sensitive to the conditions prevailing during World War I. J. L. Bundy, Sr. and Arthur H. Johnson were among those who received the degrees of the order under emergency conditions.

A roll of honor was placed in the hall on January 24, 1918 and a service flag hung on April 22, 1920.

The grand lodge established two funds for war aid and the local members contributed liberally to these causes.

On June 27, 1918, the lodge gave \$25 to the North Douglas chapter of the Red Cross to purchase comfort kits for soldier boys in service.

The grand lodge on July 25, 1918, issued an edict praising the loyalty demonstrated by the nine German language lodges in the state. However, it was ordered that the English language only be used, as soon as the officers became proficient in this tongue and not later than January, 1919.

A card was received November 12, 1919, indicating that J. M. Hawkins had visited the Washington-Lafayette Masonic club in France.

The influenza epidemic that followed this war had its effect as the lodge meetings of October, November and December 1918 were not held, on recommendation of the state board of health.

FUND REVIVED . . .

The Masonic Service Fund was revived in 1941 for World War II and again in 1951, during the Korean Conflict. On January 8, 1942, the lodge made a substantial investment in defense bonds.

On March 26, 1942, Dainen Arthur was recognized as the first brother to enter service in World War II.

A committee was named May 24, 1945 to welcome brothers home from the war. A sum of \$25 was given to the American Legion Memorial fund.

MASONIC DONATIONS . . .

The lodge has given donations to a number of outside interests. Assistance to distressed brethren in the South after the Civil War has already been reported.

On May 10, 1910, \$15 was sent to aid the distressed in the San Francisco earthquake.

A donation of \$150 was made June 24, 1920 for life membership in the George Washington Memorial at Alexandria, Virginia.

On February 25, 1936, \$100 was sent for flood relief in the Ohio River Valley.

GIFTS RECEIVED . . .

The lodge has received a number of significant gifts. In 1922, Frank Smith gave the lodge a gavel, made from wood grown on the farm of George Washington. Harry Woodworth gave the lodge an electric letter "G" in 1926 and two years later presented marble plates for use on the officer pedestals.

In 1936, the home on the northwest corner of S. Main and Van Allen streets was left to the lodge under the will of A. W. Wallace. The following year, the home was sold to Fred D. Michener for \$3000.

Of course, the gift of the present lodge home on September 23, 1937 by Gus Flesor has been one of the most substantial gifts and has earned the continuing thanks of all the local Masonic bodies.

MASONIC FESTIVITIES . . .

The serving of refreshments after Masonic labor has been a time honored custom. The serving of oyster suppers dates back to the earliest days of the lodge and is still popular today.

The holding of picnics was a custom for many decades but has occurred less frequently in recent years.

The need for economy was demonstrated during the depression when it was decided that refreshments would be

served only following Master Mason degrees.

In regard to festivities, the lodge was always on the side of temperance as shown by a Grand Lodge edict of November 14, 1912, which forbade smoking in the lodge hall during ceremonies.

MASONIC AWARDS . . .

Masonic awards given on the local level include the Past Master's Pin and Pins for 25 and 50 years of membership.

The first past master's pin was presented to Don W. Tuttle in 1941.

Fifty year pins were first secured in 1933 and the first one was presented to Joshua S. Cambridge on October 12 of that year.

The first 25 year pins were awarded on April 28, 1949 at which time 98 members were eligible and 48 were present to receive them in person.

The first Past Master's night was held on February 3, 1921. This observance is now held each year with past masters traditionally conferring a Master Mason degree.

The 25 and 50 year pins are now presented on these occasions.

GRAND MASTER VISITS . . .

The visits of Grand Masters to the Tuscola lodge have indeed been rare but exceedingly noteworthy. A visit of particular note was the laying of the court house cornerstone in 1911 by Delmar D. Darrah, then grand master, and one of Illinois' most illustrious Masons.

However, this was a grand lodge ceremony and the proceedings are not shown in the Tuscola lodge minutes.

On the occasion of the lodge's 75th anniversary, November 29, 1935, Grand Master Hal C. McCloud, was in attendance and was received in suitable ceremonies.

Grand Master Everett T. Lawrence was a guest of the lodge on January 9, 1939 and at that time presented a 50 year pin to R. J. N. Johnson, one of the lodge's most



One of the lodge's most auspicious occasions occurred on April 28, 1949 when Fred Mills, Grand Master of Illinois, was a visitor here. He presented the first 25 year pins. With him are Fred Renner, center, and Burl Mills, right.

faithful members. Mr. Johnson died in June of that year.

On the occasion of his visit to the lodge on April 28, 1949, Grand Master Fred Mills officiated at the presentation of the first 25 year pins. His presence here meant the realization of a lifelong ambition of Burl H. Mills, then worshipful master, to serve as the host master to the head of the fraternity.

FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE . . .

During the past century, the lodge has been blessed with long and distinguished service on the part of many members.

Of particular note was the service of W. H. Lamb, who

was master of the lodge a total of ten years. Cornelius Bye served as master for seven years, the first occasion being in 1864 and the last in 1905.

James Davis, the first master, was head of the lodge for four years.

Worshipful masters with three years service were W. F. Bromfield, P. C. Sloan, R. J. N. Johnson, J. W. Kagey, C. A. Hawkins and Fred L. Renner.

H. Brooks Bowles was secretary of the lodge for the 20 years from 1928 to 1948.

Isaac D. Urquhart had served as treasurer for a similar period at the time of his death in 1942.

Eli Murphey was elected treasurer at that time and has served continuously in this capacity up to the present time.

LOCAL GRAND OFFICERS . . .

Caleb G. Stovall was the first local member to be honored with a grand lodge office, that of sword bearer, in 1912.

George M. Seip was elected in 1932 and served as grand sentinel of Royal Arch Masons.

Claude J. Hoel was made a grand lecturer in 1930.

Fred L. Renner became a grand lecturer in 1928 and gave instruction in the Tuscola lodge in this capacity the first time on February 20 of the following year.

He also served as district deputy grand master from 1932 to 1940, and 1950 to 1957.

He had replaced Charles A. Hawkins in this post. Mr. Hawkins had so served from 1920 until his death on February 13, 1932.

At the present time, the Tuscola lodge boasts four grand lecturers. In addition to Brother Renner, they are Clyde J. Colwell, James Feeler and Burl H. Mills, who qualified for this honor in 1952.

YORK CROSS OF HONOR . . .

The lodge takes pride in two members being the recipients of the York Cross of Honor, which is awarded



Tuscola's Grand Lecturers: James R. Feeler, Clyde J. Colwell, Fred L. Renner, and Burl H. Mills.

only to those who have headed all the York Rite Masonic bodies. Frank Marler received this honor in 1958, and Burl H. Mills was similarly honored this year, 1960.

MISCELLANY . . .

The problem of ventilating the lodge hall in the summer months has been one of long standing, a committee first having been appointed to deal with the matter on July 11, 1867.

The Tuscola lodge was not the only local organization to have been made homeless by fire. The Knights of Pythias lost their quarters in 1906, when their Castle hall burned.

The grand lodge issued a directive December 27, 1923, forbidding the lodges of the state to hold raffles, drawings or similar events.

John J. Richeson was paid \$5 to speak at the cornerstone laying of the South Ward school.

The lodge was a regular donor to the Christmas Fund of the LaGrange Orphans home.

A lodge of foreign jurisdiction was present in Tuscola on November 20, 1947, when Parke County Lodge No. 8 of Rockville, Indiana, conferred a Master Mason degree in the form of the grand lodge of Indiana. Later, a local group returned the compliment for the Rockville lodge.

The outside Masonic electric sign was a gift to the lodge of the Tuscola Chapter, Order of DeMolay. It was given to the lodge on July 12, 1951.



The illuminated emblem which informs the wayfarer of the presence of a Masonic Lodge, by night, as well as by day, was presented to the lodge by the Order of DeMolay on July 12, 1951.

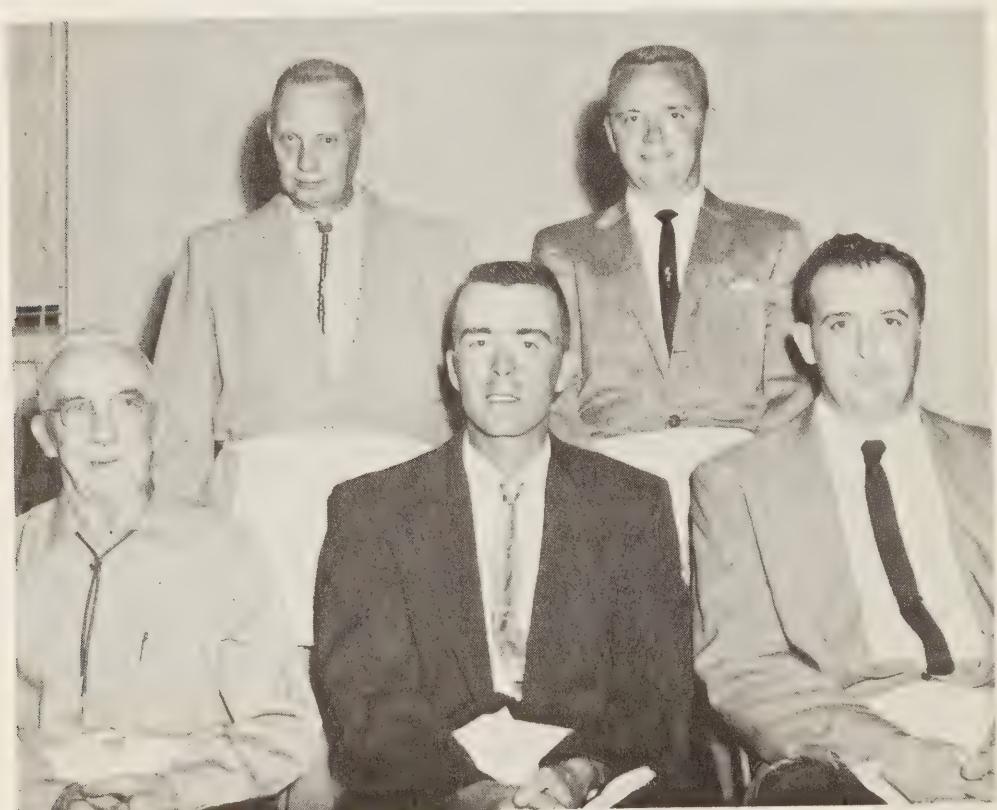
THE MASONIC DEGREES . . .

The Entered Apprentice is the first degree of Masonry. It is likened to the beginner in any enterprise, who must

first confine his efforts to the ruder and heavier tasks of labor.

The second degree, or Fellowcraft, represents the period when the worker has acquired some basic skills but still is not qualified for full responsibility.

The Master Mason, or third degree, signifies a complete qualification for the work at hand, be it physical, mental or spiritual, together with the means of identification that prove these abilities.



Present Officers: Front, left to right, Frank P. Layne, junior warden; James L. Brothers, III, worshipful master; Wayne Seip, senior warden. Rear, Melvin R. Felix, senior steward; R. L. Proffitt, junior steward. Officers not pictured are Russel O'Bryan, senior deacon; Ralph Allen secretary; Eli Murphey, treasurer; and William Goodman, chaplain.

THE 1950'S . . .

In the early 1950's, there came to the Tuscola area a vast crew of men to engage in the fabrication and erection of a vast chemical plant.

The occasion was reminiscent of the Biblical days of Solomon's Temple when Masonic craftsmen from far off places came to ply their trade on that great edifice.

It had a parallel, too, in the Europe of the Middle Ages, when the forebears of the modern Masonic order made their way from one project to another in the building of the great cathedrals that still excite the wonder of man.

While the implements and materials were different, the relationship was clear.

Many of the workmen, sensing this relationship, united with the local lodge. On many other occasions, the Tuscola lodge conferred degrees on craftsmen at the request



James L. Brothers III, Worshipful Master, 1960.



Paul R. Stephens, Rushville, Grand Master of Illinois, 1960.

of lodges of farflung foreign jurisdiction.

Some of the workmen established permanent homes here and it is interesting to note that the present worshipful master, James L. Brothers, III, was such a workman, brought here by the opportunity of working on this vast installation.

At the same time, the Tuscola lodge found itself to be in a growing and expanding community. The officers and members have risen to the occasion admirably and have shouldered a full share of the responsibilities and duties at hand.



Faithful laborers in the Temple: Front, Melvin Yost, junior deacon; Fred Renner, tyler; Myron Pangburn, marshal. Rear, W. V. Rubart, John Finley, and Willis Jolley, all past masters.

THE FUTURE . . .

The past 100 years have brought a great deal of change to Tuscola. The coming of electricity, the telephone, the motor car, the airplane, radio and television have eliminated many of the hardships of the earlier life and have greatly increased the speed of communication and travel.

Under the circumstances, freemasonry was bound to undergo some change. However, the underlying principles remain the same. The fact that the Masonic lodge endured while many other groups fell by the wayside, is assurance that the fraternity will continue as a force for good in the world.

On the surface, the activities of the lodge are less spectacular than those of an earlier day. However, the need for the guidance of its teachings are as critical as they ever were.

While life today may be less rigorous and hazardous than of yore, it is more hurried and of great complexity. It provides not only the challenge but also the opportunity for greater service and accomplishment than ever was the case before.

If the past can be considered a criterion, there is full assurance that the fraternity will rise to all the occasions that will be encountered in the days to come.

Written by Phil White, April 3, 1960.

1544113

MASONIC COMPUTATIONS OF TIME . . .

Ancient Craft Masons commence their era with the creation of the world, calling it Anna Lucis (A. L.) "In the year of light". Rule: add 4000 years to the common time.

Scottish Rite. Same as Ancient Craft, except the Jewish chronology is used. Anno Mundi (A. M.) "In the year of the world". Rule: add 3760 to the common era thus: 1960 plus 3760 - 5720. After September add another year.

Royal Arch Masons date from the year of the second temple, which was commenced by Zerubabel. Anno Inventonis (A. Inv.) Rule: add 530 to the common era, thus: 1960 plus 530 - 2490. "In the year of the discovery".

Royal and Select Masons date from the year in which the temple of Solomon was completed. Anno Depositions. (A. Dep.) "In the year of the deposit". Rule: add 1000 years to the common time.

Knights Templar commence their era with the organization of their order. Anno Ordinuf (A. O.) "In the year of order". Rule: from the Christian era, take 1118. Thus: 1118 from 1960 - 842.



**The Centennial Committee: Clyde J. Colwell, Frank P. Layne,
James L. Brothers, III, Burl H. Mills.**

— Past Masters of Tuscola Lodge No. 332, AF & AM —

*Jas. Davis - 1860, 1861, 1863, 1865	Fred L. Renner - 1921, 1929,
*Cornelius Bye - 1864, 1866, 1867, 1876, 1877, 1886, 1905	1930
*Erasmus Hudson - 1862	*Perry J. O'Neal - 1922
*W. H. Lamb - 1868, 1869, 1870, 1871, 1882, 1883, 1884, 1885, 1887, 1888	*Harry C. Marsh - 1923, 1924
*Derrick Lamb - 1872	Horace C. Batchelor - 1925
*W. F. Bromfield - 1873, 1874, 1875	Charles E. Wheat - 1926
*P. C. Sloan - 1878, 1879, 1880	*C. J. Hoel - 1928
*Westford Taggart - 1881	*John R. Ponder - 1931, 1932
*C. T. Morris - 1889, 1898	C. E. Tudor - 1933
*R. J. N. Johnson - 1892, 1893, 1894	Earl R. Heacock, 1934
*J. W. Kagey - 1895, 1896, 1897, 1904	L. Crimmel - 1935
*L. O. Hackett - 1899, 1900	Clark Edwards - 1936
*I. D. Urquhart - 1901	Howard D. Rutan - 1937
*P. H. C. Remine - 1902, 1903	O. B. Smith - 1938, 1939
*W. Thomas Coleman - 1906	Don Tuttle - 1940
*C. A. Moon - 1907	W. W. Stevens - 1941
*A. A. Moon - 1908	J. E. Pohlig - 1942
*C. G. Stovall - 1909	A. E. Root - 1943
*C. A. Hawkins - 1910, 1917 1927	F. M. Marler - 1944
*F. A. Buragraf - 1911	F. L. Price - 1945
*John V. Cambridge - 1912, 1913	C. A. Wood, Jr. - 1946
*I. S. Williams - 1914	G. A. McLennan - 1947
*Clarence C. Rude - 1915	Fred Manwaring - 1948
*Myron Bigelow - 1916	B. H. Mills - 1949
*George M. Seip - 1918	Clyde J. Colwell - 1950
*Horace O'Neal - 1919	James R. Feeler, - 1951
*Glen B. McFarland - 1920	William W. Wood - 1952
	N. W. Purcell - 1953
	Ralph I. Hanner - 1954
	Ralph E. Allen - 1955
	Willis C. Jolley - 1956
	John A. Wiekert - 1957
	W. V. Rubart - 1958
	John G. Finley - 1959

* — Deceased

— 50 Years Of Masonic Membership —

Eugene E. Craw
Martin S. Patrick
Lou A. Cambridge
Royal R. Huff

Leon Reinheimer
Harry H. Cooch
Hugh J. Mattix
Charles E. Williams

TUSCOLA COUNCIL NO. 21
Royal & Select Masters
Chartered 1863

First Officers —

E. Hudson Thrice Illustrious Master
L. Hart Illustrious Deputy Master
F. Lamb Principal Conductor of the Work

Last recorded minutes March 7, 1883

TUSCOLA CHAPTER NO. 66
Royal Arch Masons



Charter granted October 7, 1864. Destroyed by fire
March 11, 1873. Re-issued October 30, 1873.

Erasmus Hudson, First High Priest

Present Officers —

Waldo Ball	Excellent High Priest
R. R. Smith	King
Keith House	Scribe
Roy C. Hopkins	Treasurer
Boyd Wiesener	Secretary
Melvin Felix	Chaplain
Ralph Allen	Captain of the Host
Eugene Hall	Principal Sojourner
Frank W. Marler	Royal Arch Captain
Kenneth Nelson	Master 3rd Veil
Thomas Powell	Master 2nd Veil
Allan Bateman	Master 1st Veil

— Past High Priests of Tuscola Chapter No. 66, R. A. M. —

E. Hudson - 1863, 1864, 1865
Cornelius Bye - 1866, 1867,
1868, 1894, 1904
Derrick Lamb - 1869, 1870,
1875, 1877
P. C. Sloan - 1871, 1872, 1873,
1876, 1886
A. H. Elkin - 1874
M. V. Daggett - 1878, 1879
Brown Ervin - 1880, 1881, 1882,
1883, 1884, 1885, 1887, 1889,
1890, 1891
John H. Jewell - 1888, 1903
C. T. Morris - 1892, 1893, 1895
R. J. N. Johnson - 1896, 1915,
1930, 1932, 1933, 1934, 1935
Daniel A. Conover - 1897
Pollok H. C. Remine - 1898,
1899, 1900, 1901
William Edgar Rice - 1902
Charles F. Lamb - 1905
C. A. Moon - 1906, 1910, 1911,
1912, 1913, 1914, 1920
C. E. Williams - 1907
Charles A. Hawkins - 1908,
1918, 1919
John W. Kagey - 1909

F. A. Burggraf - 1916, 1922
1923
Charles E. Williams - 1917
George M. Seip - 1921
John V. Cambridge - 1924,
1928, 1929
Charles E. Wheat - 1925
Walter F. Bosley - 1926
George N. Fornof - 1927
Leon Reinheimer - 1931
Clyde M. Larimer - 1936, 1937,
1938
Clark A. Fullerton - 1939
Jule Pohlig - 1940, 1941
F. M. Marler - 1942, 1943,
1950, 1951, 1952
John T. Armstrong - 1944
Louis Q. Dickey - 1945
B. H. Mills - 1946, 1947,
1948, 1949
William V. Rubart - 1953
Harold Hackett - 1954
Roy C. Hopkins - 1955
Carl Hackett - 1956
O. B. Smith - 1957
Frank P. Layne - 1958
Everett W. Kerns - 1959

MELITA COMMANDERY NO. 37
Knights Templar



Chartered 1870

First Commander — William H. Lamb

Present Officers —

Commander	B. H. Mills
Generalissimo	P. J. Wills
Captain General	James C. McIntyre
Senior Warden	Kenneth Nelson
Junior Warden	Keith House
Recorder	Charles R. Schrodт
Treasurer	Eli Murphey
Prelate	John Armstrong
Standard Bearer	John Lloyd
Color Bearer	Boyd Wiesener
Sword Bearer	N. H. Wakefield
Warder	William Skinner
Sentinel	Melvin Felix
First Hermit	Maurice Baker
Second Hermit	Ralph Allen
Third Hermit	Charles Whalen
First Guard	W. V. Rubart
Second Guard	Jack VonderHiede
Third Guard	Raymond Lee

Triangle Guard —

Jay R. North	Floyd R. Grubb	Dan Ponder
Allan Bateman		Elmo Pearson

— Living Past Commanders of Melita Commandery No. 37 —

Eli Murphey - 1929	William Iles - 1952
Roy B. Moulden - 1930	John L. Bundy - 1953
Frank M. Marler - 1939	Carl W. Hackett - 1954
Manford Roller - 1940	Harold E. Hackett - 1955
John T. Armstrong - 1946	Frank P. Layne - 1956
Wilbur M. Hoel - 1947	C. R. Schrodт - 1957
Oscar B. Smith - 1949	R. R. Smith - 1958
Harry V. Tharp - 1950	Waldo C. Ball - 1959
Everett W. Kerns - 1951	

TUSCOLA CHAPTER NO. 44

Order of the Eastern Star



Chartered October 1, 1878

Letitia A. Johnson, First Worthy Matron

John M. Outcelt, First Worthy Patron

Present Officers —

Lillian Brothers	Worthy Matron
James Brothers, II	Worthy Patron
Jeanne Miller	Associate Matron
John Miller	Associate Patron
Grace Corrie	Secretary
Doris Romine	Treasurer
Patricia Weaver	Conductress
Maxine Hall	Associate Conductress
Anna Brock	Chaplain
Helen Wood	Marshal
Helen Sanderson	Organist
Mary Jones	Adah
Doris White	Ruth
Thelma Taylor	Esther
Ruth Ann Ziegler	Martha
Margaret Varney	Electa
Hallie Hopkins	Warder
Ralph Hanner	Sentinel
Joan Finley	Instructress
Hattiebelle Fornof	Grand Lecturer, Emeritus

PAST WORTHY MATRONS —

*Letitia A. Johnson	1878, 1879, 1880
*Hattie Ervin	1881
*Hattie Reinheimer	1882
*Mrs. D. A. Conover	1883
*Mrs. D. A. Conover	1884
*Letitia A. Johnson	1885, 1887
*Letitia A. Johnson	1886, 1889
*Mrs. D. A. Conover	1888
*Letitia A. Johnson	1890
*Letitia A. Johnson	1891
*Nettie C. Kenner	1892
*Letitia A. Johnson	1893, 1894
*Mary F. Madison	1895

PAST WORTHY PATRONS —

*John M. Outcelt	
*J. A. Sloan	
*John Ervin	
*F. A. E. Starr	
*James Townsell	
*James Townsell	
*J. A. Sloan	
*C. Bye	
*S. B. Ervin	
*Harry Madison	
*Harry Madison	
*C. T. Morris	
*R. J. N. Johnson	

*Letitia A. Johnson	1896, 1897, 1903, 1904	*S. S. Goehring
*Hattie Reinheimer	1905, 1906, 1907	*I. D. Urquhart
*Mary I. Johnson	1908	*James Whitecross
*Mary I. Johnson	1909	*I. D. Urquhart
*Margaret Whitecross	1910	*Thomas Coleman
*Mary I. Johnson	1911	*Myron Bigelow
Grace Bigelow	1912, 1913	*Myron Bigelow
*Gertrude Urquhart	1914	*I. D. Urquhart
*Gertrude Urquhart	1915	*R. J. N. Johnson
*Jennie Hamilton	1916	*R. J. N. Johnson
*Jennie Hamilton	1917	Leon Reinheimer
*Leona Ward	1918	*Myron Bigelow
*Bertha A. Seip	1919	*J. W. Kagey
*Grace Hackett	1920	*J. W. Kagey
Anna Reinheimer	1921	*J. W. Kagey
*Anna Black	1922	*J. W. Kagey
*Anna Fullerton	1923	*R. J. N. Johnson
*Ida Timm	1924	*R. J. N. Johnson
*Emelie Wiesener	1925	*R. J. N. Johnson
Maude Lollar	1926	*R. J. N. Johnson
*Bertha A. Jones	1927	*R. J. N. Johnson
*Grace Moorehead	1928	*R. J. N. Johnson
Bernese Ellars	1929	*R. J. N. Johnson
Eva Hoel Conover	1930	*I. D. Urquhart
Cecile Smith	1931	*I. D. Urquhart
*Gertrude Linton	1932	*R. J. N. Johnson
*Leda Ponder	1933	*R. J. N. Johnson
Hattiebelle Fornof	1934	*John Ponder
Lulu Hendrix Johnson	1935	Harry B. Bowles
Doll Fullerton	1936	Leonard Hendricks
Edith Reeder	1937	Flynn W. Stephens
Doris Romine	1938	Flynn W. Stephens
Lois Moulden	1939	Frank M. Marler
Ruby Colwell	1940	Frank M. Marler
Esther Hoel	1941	*Clyde M. Larimer
Antoinette North	1942	Frank M. Marler
Thelma Root	1943	Flynn W. Stephens
Marie Marler	1944	*George N. Fornof
Esther Larimer	1945	Frank M. Marler
Dolores Carpenter	1946	Clark Fullerton
Grace Corrie	1947	*Charles Foley
June Black	1948	*George N. Fornof
Hazel Stone	1949	John Armstrong
Bess Layne	1950	John Armstrong
Helen Wood	1951	Frank P. Layne
Lena Helm	1952	William W. Wood
Lois Kerns	1953	Herbert J. Simpson
Wanda Allen	1954	Everett W. Kerns
Gladys Rubart	1955	Ralph Allen
Wanda Colwell	1956	Vern Rubart
Joan Finley	1957	Roy C. Hopkins
Nancy Smith	1958	John G. Finley
Helen Ziegler	1959	O. B. Smith
		Dean Ziegler

* — Deceased

TUSCOLA ASSEMBLY NO. 55

Rainbow For Girls

Instituted October 7, 1951

Sponsored by the Order of Eastern Star

First Worthy Advisor — Joan Owen Finley

Present Officers —

Worthy Advisor	Marsha Graham
Worthy Associate Advisor	Marlyn Corrie
Charity	Carolyn Corrie
Hope	Judy Wright
Faith	Sharon Terril
Recorder	Donna Jaus
Treasurer	Jane Rothgeb
Chaplain	Janelle Patterson
Drill Leader	Nita Bozarth
Love	Carol Rose
Religion	Tresha Wolfe
Nature	Connie Schneider
Immortality	Ruth Ann Moore
Fidelity	Melinda Carroll
Patriotism	Willa Tice
Service	Libby Keigley
Confidential Observer	Darlene Wheeler
Outer Observer	Joy Jones
Musician	Linda Summerlot
Choir Director	Kathy Dinsmore
Mother Advisor	Mrs. William (Helen) Wood

PAST WORTHY ADVISORS —

Joan Owen Finley
Phyllis Schultz Stenger
Doris Perry
Virginia Varney Ward
Nancy Smith
Marilyn Watson Beatty
Sally Lewis Morris
Janet Nichols Bass
Shirley McMorris Quinn
Doris McDaniel Dunn
Sandra DeBolt Decker
Sue Dickson Jones
Judy Timm Junkins

Vonda Branham Flanigan
Judy Baird Farber
Ruth Ann Ziegler
Sandra Foley Greger
Gaila Grubb
Sharon Conner Schwengel
Barbara McCartney
Jane Ann Wright
Jean M. Thomas
Nancy Owen
Sibyl Igo
Joy Jones
Patricia Thompson

RAINBOW ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS —

Mrs. Max Summerlot, chairman
Mrs. John G. Finley
Mrs. Harold Graham
Nancy Smith
Betty Ruth Hannah
Mrs. Bobbie L. Weaver
Mrs. Eugene Hall
Mr. and Mrs. John Miller
Mr. and Mrs. Elmo Pearson
Mr. and Mrs. R. P. Moore
Mr. and Mrs. James Brothers, II

TUSCOLA CHAPTER, Order Of DeMolay



Sponsorship authorized by Tuscola Lodge No. 332, AF&AM, on March 10, 1948.

Chartered April, 1948

First Master Councilor — Wayne O. Robins

Present Officers —

Master Councilor	Philip Morris
Senior Councilor	Dan Rutan
Junior Councilor	James Robinson
Senior Deacon	Jerry Krallman
Junior Deacon	Craig Wyatt
Senior Steward	Charles Robinson
Junior Steward	Carter Morris
Orator	Monty Froman
Scribe	David Burge
Sentinel	Gary Martin
Chaplain	James Woodcock
Marshal	Robert Felix
Standard Bearer	John Tice
Almoner	Ronnie Allen
Organist	Kenneth Clark

Preceptors — 1. Russell Long 2. Marcus Bunting
3. Howard Patterson 4. Robert Wyatt 5. Dennis Hanner
6. Paul Donley 7. James Wiesener

MEMORANDA AND AUTOGRAPHS
